Remarks

Claims 1-36 are pending.

Claims 1-36 stand rejected.

Claims 1 and 22 have been amended.

Claims 16-21 have been cancelled.

Claims 1-15 and 22-36 are submitted herein for review.

No new matter has been added.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has continued the same rejection of claims 1-36 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the previously cited Ng et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,131,096). Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner and submit the following remarks in response.

Applicants begin by noting that the present independent claims 1 and 22 have been amended to include the features that the data synchronization features of the present claims occur between a PIM of a user and the user's personal contact lists in a directory assistance context. Moreover, the callers personal contact list (in their profile is identified by using a code identifying the user, such as an ANI (Automatic Number Identifier). Support for these features may be found for example in paragraph [0050]-[0051] and [0053] - [0056]. No new matter has been added. Claims 16-21 have been cancelled.

To this end, among the previously listed features independent claim 1 is further directed to a method for use in a first device to configure a second device to perform data

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synchronization with the first device in a directory assistance system. The method includes storing at a directory assistance system personal contacts connection information in a folder associated with a user. A communication is received at the directory system from the user, where a profile including the folder associated with the user is identified by the system using a code identifying the user.

As part of the received communication, a request is received for synchronization of a second set of personal contacts connection information from a personal information manager (PIM) of the user with the personal contacts connection information in the folder at the system associated with the user.

As noted in prior Amendments, the cited prior art, namely Ng, is a prior art system for updating a remote database in a network, but it does not relate at all to directory features.

For example there is no teaching or suggestion in Ng that discloses a communication being received at the directory system from the user, where a profile including the folder associated with the user is identified by the system using a code identifying the user.

Likewise, there is no teaching or suggestion in Ng that discloses as part of a received communication, a request is received for synchronization of a second set of personal contacts connection information from a personal information manager (PIM) of the user with the personal contacts connection information in the folder at the system associated with the user.

For at least these reasons, Applicants request that the rejection of independent

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claims 1 and 22 be withdrawn. Also, as claims 2-15 and 23-36 depend from these

claims, the rejection of these claims should be withdrawn for at least the same reasons.

In view of the foregoing Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 1-15

and 22-36 are in condition for allowance, the earliest possible notice of which is

earnestly solicited. If the Examiner feels that an interview would facilitate the

prosecution of this Application they are invited to contact the undersigned at the number

listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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